

What is claimed is:

1. An aortic cannula comprising  
a cannula including a terminus and a lumen therethrough;  
a dispersion nozzle at the terminus of the cannula including a plurality of curved  
5 vanes to direct flow into a substantially hemispherical flow profile to increase the cross-  
sectional area of the flow stream.
2. The aortic cannula of claim 1, the dispersion nozzle further including a  
collar having a passage therethrough, the vanes being attached to the collar across the  
passage therethrough, the curved vanes having blunt leading edges defining a domed  
10 inner cavity within the collar.
3. The aortic cannula of claim 1, the dispersion nozzle further including an  
arch bisecting the vanes at the outer edges of the vanes.
4. The aortic cannula of claim 3, the arch having side surfaces diverging one  
from another away from the terminus of the cannula.
- 15 5. The aortic cannula of claim 1, where the curved vanes are divergent from  
each other away from the terminus of the cannula.
6. An aortic cannula comprising  
a cannula including a terminus and a lumen therethrough;  
a dispersion nozzle at the terminus of the cannula including a plurality of curved  
20 vanes to direct flow into a substantially hemispherical flow profile to increase the cross-  
sectional area of the flow stream and a collar having a passage therethrough, the  
curved vanes being attached to the collar across the passage therethrough, having

blunt leading edges defining a domed inner cavity within the collar and being divergent from each other away from the terminus of the cannula.

7. The aortic cannula of claim 6, the dispersion nozzle further including an arch bisecting the vanes at the outer edges of the vanes.

- 5        8. An aortic cannula comprising  
            a cannula including a terminus and a lumen therethrough;  
            a dispersion nozzle at the terminus of the cannula including a plurality of curved  
            vanes to direct flow into a substantially hemispherical flow profile to increase the cross-  
            sectional area of the flow stream, a collar having a passage therethrough and an arch  
10     bisecting the vanes at the outer edges of the vanes, the curved vanes being attached to  
            the collar across the passage therethrough, having blunt leading edges defining a  
            domed inner cavity within the collar and being divergent from each other away from the  
            terminus of the cannula, the arch having side surfaces diverging one from another away  
            from the terminus of the cannula.